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Command

The composition of the Lien Quan Bien Canh (LQBC) command, which has remained unchanged since its formation, is as follows:

a. High Command

Commander in Chief

General Nguyen Son¹

Deputy Commander

General HO Fou (HO K'u, 0119/5388)²

b. General Staff

Chief of Staff

General HOUANG Lie (HUANG Li
7806/11118)

Deputy

Deputy Chief of Staff

Colonel WAN Fa-fou(K'o Hua-hu
3265/0553/5706)³

c. 32 Division

Commander

General LO Pac(LO Pai, 5012/4101)⁴

Deputy Commander

Colonel QUAN Fong (KUAN Fang, 7070/5361) ⁵

Chief of Staff

Colonel UNG Liam(WU Lin, 0702/2651)

d. 12 Division

Commander

General WONG Tsam(Wang Hsin, 3769/1800)⁶

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Deputy Commander Colonel LOU Fo-fa (LU Huo-fan, 4151/3499/5603)⁷
 Chief of Staff Colonel LIAU Pa-kouang (LIU Po-kuang, 0491/0130/1684)

e. 61 Division

Commander General HONG Pac-san (HUNG Po-shan, 3163/0130/1472)⁸
 Deputy Commander Colonel QUAY Hong (HUEI Hung, 2710/3163)
 Chief of Staff Colonel TCHEONG Liam-tiac (CHANG Lin-te, 1728/2651/1795)

Organization

2. The IQBC was formed from certain elements of the Trung Viet Lien Quan (Chung Yueh Lien Chun, 0022/6390/6647/6511), which was composed of Indochinese and Chinese elements from the mountain region north of the Red River delta, to which were added other elements sent from China.
3. When a part of the Trung Viet Lien Quan was sent into the northwest part of Central Vietnam and Laos, the Lien Quan Bien Canh consisted of about 9,000 men. There has been no change in the organization and nomenclature of the units. However, the IQBC continued to grow gradually until October 1951 at which time it reached its present strength of about 20,000 men.
4. The IQBC is composed of two types of troops: regular troops whose strength theoretically remains constant and auxiliary troops whose strength varies but is not as great as that of the regulars.
5. Regular Troops. Since October 1951 the IQBC has been organized according to the Chinese Army system as follows:
 - a. A Ban (Pan, 3803) (Squad), the smallest unit, is composed of a leader, his assistant, one secretary, two information agents, one liaison agent, and eleven troops: a total of 17 men.
 - b. Three Ban form one Bai (P'ai, 2226) (Platoon), the basic unit of organization. In addition, each Bai includes two special groups (Doi), (T'e Peh Tui, 5897/3423/7130): one assault group (Ch'ung Chi Tui, 5897/3423/7130), and one demolition group (P'o Huai Tui, 4275/1095/7130). Each special group is composed of 15 men; the demolition group is composed of ten men for demolition and five for kitchen work (cinq hommes constituant l'equipe de cuisiniere). Thus each Bai or Platoon is actually composed of 81 men, not counting the command elements.
 - c. Three Bai form one Lien (Lien, 6647) (Company) 243 men
 - d. Three Lien form one Dinh (Ying, 3602) (Battalion) 729 men
 - e. Three Dinh form one Doan (T'uan, 0957) (Regiment) 2,187 men
 - f. Three Doan form one Su (Shih, 1597) (Division) 6,561 men
 - g. Three Su form one Quan (Chun, 6511) (Army) 19,683 men

Thus the entire IQBC theoretically is composed of 19,683 men not including the command elements above the level of Ban (Class).
6. Auxiliary troops. In addition to the regular units there is a variable number of "volunteers" (called Mo Binh in Vietnamese and MU Ping, 0527/0365 in Chinese). These auxiliary elements are composed of special groups of coolies and Chinese workers who are recruited in the Indochina-China border area to work in labor camps, supervised by the IQBC, or to transport supplies. These workers are generally dressed like the military personnel and are likewise organized in special groups (Doi).

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7. Another group associated with the IQBC, the Hoa Kieu Doc Lap Doan (Hua Ch'iao Tu Li Tuan) commanded by HOUANG Penh (HUANG Ping, 7806/3531), is currently attached to the 32 Division of the IQBC. This group is now located in the Maritime Zone near Tien Yen (107-24; 21-19).

Troop Movements of the 61 Division

8. The Command of the 61 Division has withdrawn toward Cao Bang all units formerly located in the Bi Nhi (106-42; 22-12) region, and in the area between Dong Khe (106-27; 22-25) and Cao Bang (106-15; 22-40). At the same time the 88 Artillery Battalion, which was located at Co Phay (106-27; 22-16) and Soc Giang (106-00; 22-54) for the protection of Quang Uyen (106-26; 22-41) and Nguyen Binh (105-55; 22-38), was also withdrawn to Cao Bang in order to organize an anti-aircraft defense. The regions abandoned by the above units are now controlled only by local units (Dan Quan). The 61 Division has also withdrawn to Lang Son (106-45; 21-50) the 29 Artillery Battalion which formerly was located between Dong Khe (106-26; 22-25) and Bi Nhi (106-42; 22-13) and the 31 Battalion which formerly was protecting the Chinese Communist aid route through Bi Nhi.

Activities of the 32 Division

9. The 32 Division is responsible for the area extending from Dong Dang (106-42; 21-56) to Lang Son (106-45; 21-50) to Mon Cay (107-58; 21-31) and the adjacent coastal area. The Command of the 32 Division is continually recruiting new Chinese troops in the border region. These recruits are trained either on the China side of the frontier before being sent into the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) zone, or are sent directly into the DRV zone to be trained there.
10. About 35 percent of the troops of the 32 Division have been sick; the mortality rate is from 10 to 12 percent. The largest number of illnesses resulted from malaria, dysentery and beri-beri. The Military Medical Group is badly organized and is short of technicians and drugs.

Chinese Communist Aid to the IQBC

11. The Chinese Communists ship material to the 61 Division from Laipin (109-16; 23-42) by two routes; the river route to Lungchou⁹ (106-56; 22-22) and the road route by way of Nanning.
12. On 19 May 1952, a convoy of eight GMC trucks arrived at Nanning from Trung Khanh Phu (106-32; 22-50). The trucks were loaded with supplies in Nanning and departed on 19 May for Trung Khanh Phu by way of Cao Bang. These supplies which were turned over to the 61 Division, consisted of the following: 20 wooden boxes (6.4 meters x 2.2) containing dismantled "Beaufort" anti-aircraft guns; eight steel boxes (1.4 meters x .8) containing shells for the "Beaufort" guns.
13. A river convoy composed of three boats left Laipin on the morning of 19 June 1952 and arrived at Lungchou on the morning of 20 June.¹⁰ Two GMC trucks transported the cargo from one boat to Cao Bang on the night of 20 June for transshipment to Trung Khanh Phu. The other two boats went directly to Trung Khanh by river. The cargo of the three boats consisted of: 30 boxes (4.8 meters x 2.2) of dismantled heavy machine guns; 52 boxes (3.2 meters x 1.4) of cartridges for these machine guns; 15 boxes (6.8 meters x 2.4) each containing a dismantled 82 mm. mortar; 40 boxes of mortar shells. All of the above materiel was to be delivered to artillery and anti-aircraft units of the 61 Division.
14. On 29 May 1952, the Chinese Communist Commander of the Tung Hsing (107-58; 21-33) sector received a supply convoy destined for the IQBC in the coastal zone of northern Tonkin. This convoy was composed of 15 junks as follows:
 - a. Four large junks each transporting seven boxes (5 meters x 9.2) each containing one dismantled 82 mm. mortar. The only marking on these boxes was a yellow star.
 - b. Two junks each transporting 25 steel boxes (3.5 meters x 7.5) each containing 52 82 mm. mortar shells. The only marking on these boxes was a yellow star.

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- c. Three junks transporting 25 boxes (3.5 meters x 7.5) each containing one dismantled "Beaufort" anti-aircraft gun.
 - d. Three junks each transporting 12 steel boxes containing shells for the "Beaufort" guns.
 - e. Two junks each transporting 26 boxes of drugs and surgical instruments.
 - f. Two junks each transporting 31 boxes (2 meters x .8) each containing magazine rifles of Chinese manufacture and 400 to 500 cartridges.
15. All of the above mentioned supplies, with the exception of one junk-load of medical supplies and surgical equipment, were shipped into the DRV zone between 6 and 14 June 1952. Four truck convoys proceeded to Ha Coi (107-45; 21-27) during the nights of 6, 7, 10 and 14 June 1952. A small convoy proceeded to Ha Coi on the night of 12 June by way of the river route.
16. These supplies were received by the 32 Division command which distributed part of them to DRV units and to former units of the autonomous Chinese of Vietnam group which is now merged with the LQBC. This latter group is stationed in the coastal region in the general area of Quang Yen (106-48; 20-56) and Cam Pha Mines (107-17; 21-00). In addition to these Chinese Communist aid supplies, a group of technical advisers will be sent from China to the DRV zone in July 1952.

25X1 [] Comment. [] Nguyen Son went to South Vietnam
 25X1 in July 1952 and will assume command of DRV forces in South Vietnam and Cambodia.
 This same SO stated that HO Hu (0149/5706) replaced Nguyen Son as Commander of the LQBC.

25X1 [] Comment. This name was received as HU Hu (5170/5706) in SO-91025.
 [] Comment. This name was received as WEN Hua-hu (3306/0553/5706) in
 [] Comment. This name was received as LO Po (5012/0130) in SO-91025).
 [] Comment. This name was received as CHUN Fang (0689/2455) in SO-91025.
 [] Comment. This name was received as HUANG Shan (7806/1472) in SO-91025.
 [] Comment. This name was received as LU Lo-hua (4151/5012/0553) in
 25X1 [] Comment. This name was received as HUNG Pai-shan (3163/4101/1472)

25X1 [] Comment. It is extremely unlikely that supplies would be shipped from
 Laipin to Lungchou by way of the circuitous river route. A more likely route
 between these two towns would be by rail.

25X1 [] Comment. It is extremely doubtful that these boats, probably junks,
 could have made so long a trip as this in one day.

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